

# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590

07/26/2002

SHERMAN & SHERMAN Seventeenth Floor 2029 Century Park East Los Angeles, CA 90067

| EXAMINER |                |  |  |  |
|----------|----------------|--|--|--|
| BUI, KII | EU OANH T      |  |  |  |
| ART UNIT | CLASS-SUBCLASS |  |  |  |
| 2611     | 725-078000     |  |  |  |

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2002

| APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE |            | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------------------|------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/771,145                  | 01/26/2001 | Richard Humpleman    | SAM3.0005           | 6197             |

TITLE OF INVENTION: SET-TOP ELECTRONICS AND NETWORK INTERFACE UNIT ARRANGEMENT

| . · APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | ISSUE FEE | PUBLICATION FEE | TOTAL FEE(S) DUE | DATE DUE   |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|------------------|------------|
| nonprovisional  | NO           | \$1280    | \$300           | \$1580           | 10/28/2002 |

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. <u>PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.</u> THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

#### HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above. If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

B. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or
- B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.
- ☐ Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR·1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

#### PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

## Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Box ISSUE FEE

**Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231 (703)746-4000

<u>Fax</u>

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 4 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications. Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission. CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Legibly mark-up with any corrections or use Block 1) 07/26/2002 7590 SHERMAN & SHERMAN Seventeenth Floor Certificate of Mailing or Transmission I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Box Issue Fee address above, or being facsimile 2029 Century Park East Los Angeles, CA 90067 transmitted to the USPTO, on the date indicated below. (Depositor's name (Signature (Date FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. APPLICATION NO. SAM3.0005 6197 09/771.145 01/26/2001 Richard Humpleman TITLE OF INVENTION: SET-TOP ELECTRONICS AND NETWORK INTERFACE UNIT ARRANGEMENT SMALL ENTITY ISSUE FEE **PUBLICATION FEE** TOTAL FEE(S) DUE DATE DUE APPLN, TYPE \$1280 \$300 \$1580 10/28/2002 nonprovisional NO **EXAMINER** ART UNIT CLASS-SUBCLASS BUI, KIEU OANH T 2611 725-078000 1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363). 2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached. single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer is listed, no name will be printed. Number is required. 3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type) PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an assignment has been previously submitted to the USPTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment. (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY) (A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) ☐ individual ☐ corporation or other private group entity ☐ government 4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed: 4b. Payment of Fee(s): A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed. ☐ Issue Fee ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. Publication Fee ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_\_(enclose an extra copy of this form). ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies Commissioner for Patents is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above. (Authorized Signature) (Date) NOTE, The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone

other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C 20231.

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### United States Patent and Trademark Office

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| APPLICATION NO.                        | FILING DATE    | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.     | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 09/771,145                             | 01/26/2001     | Richard Humpleman    | SAM3.0005               | 6197             |
| 74                                     | 590 07/26/2002 |                      | EXAMINER                |                  |
| SHERMAN & SI                           | ***=====       | BUI, KIEU OANH T     |                         |                  |
| Seventeenth Floor<br>2029 Century Park | East           | [                    | ART UNIT                | PAPER NUMBER     |
| Los Angeles, CA 9                      |                |                      | 2611                    |                  |
|  |                |                      | DATE MAILED: 07/26/2002 |                  |

# Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The patent term adjustment to date is 0 days. If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the term adjustment will be 0 days.

If a continued prosecution application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines patent term adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. (http://pair.uspto.gov)



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| APPLICATION NO.                        | FILIN | G DATE     | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.     | CONFIRMATION NO. |  |
|--|-------|------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--|
| 09/771,145                             | 01/2  | 6/2001     | Richard Humpleman    | SAM3.0005               | 6197             |  |
| 7                                      | 590   | 07/26/2002 |                      | EXAMIN                  | ER               |  |
| SHERMAN & SHERMAN                      |       |            |                      | BUI, KIEU OANH T        |                  |  |
| Seventeenth Floor<br>2029 Century Park |       |            | 1                    | ART UNIT                | PAPER NUMBER     |  |
| Los Angeles, CA                        | 90067 |            | •                    | 2611                    |                  |  |
| UNITED STATES                          |       |            |                      | DATE MAILED: 07/26/2002 |                  |  |

## Notice of Fee Increase on October 1, 2002

If a reply to a "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due" is filed in the Office on or after October 1, 2002, then the amount due may be higher than that set forth in the "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due" since there will be an increase in fees effective on October 1, 2002. See Revision of Patent and Trademark Fees for Fiscal Year 2003; Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 67 Fed. Reg. 30634, 30636 (May 7, 2002). Although a change to the amount of the publication fee is not currently proposed for October 2002, if the issue fee or publication fee is to be paid on or after October 1, 2002, applicant should check the USPTO web site for the current fees before submitting the payment. The USPTO Internet address for the fee schedule is: http://www.uspto.gov/main/howtofees.htm.

If the issue fee paid is the amount shown on the "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due," but not the correct amount in view of the fee increase, a "Notice to Pay Balance of Issue Fee" will be mailed to applicant. In order to avoid processing delays associated with mailing of a "Notice to Pay Balance of Issue Fee," if the response to the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) due form is to be filed on or after October 1, 2002 (or mailed with a certificate of mailing on or after October 1, 2002), the issue fee paid should be the fee that is required at the time the fee is paid. If the issue fee was previously paid, and the response to the "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due" includes a request to apply a previously-paid issue fee to the issue fee now due, then the difference between the issue fee amount at the time the response is filed and the previously paid issue fee should be paid. See Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, Section 1308.01 (Eighth Edition, August 2001).

Effective October 1, 2002, 37 CFR 1.18 is proposed to be revised to change the patent issue fees as set forth below. As stated above, the final fees may be a different amount, and applicant should check the web site given above when paying the fee.

(a) Issue fee for issuing each original or reissue patent, except a design or plant patent:

By a small entity (Sec. 1.27(a))--\$655.00 By other than a small entity--\$1,310.00

(b) Issue fee for issuing a design patent:

By a small entity (Sec. 1.27(a))--\$235.00 By other than a small entity--\$470.00

(c) Issue fee for issuing a plant patent:

By a small entity (Sec. 1.27(a))--\$315.00

By other than a small entity--\$630.00

Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

|  | Application No.  | Applicant(s)  |                 |  |  |  |
|--|--|---|-----------------|--|--|--|
|  | 09/771,145   | HUMPLEMAN, RIC  | CHARD           |  |  |  |
| Notice of Allowability   | Examiner   | Art Unit  | 7.17.12         |  |  |  |
|  | KIEU-OANH T BUI  | 2611  |                 |  |  |  |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.   |  |   |                 |  |  |  |
| <ol> <li>This communication is responsive to <u>terminal disclaimer filed on 05/09/2002</u>.</li> <li>The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>16-25</u>.</li> <li>The drawings filed on are accepted by the Examiner.</li> <li>Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).         <ul> <li>All</li> <li>Some*</li> <li>None</li> <li>The drawings filed on are accepted by the Examiner.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</li> </ol>  |  |   |                 |  |  |  |
| <ol><li>Certified copies of the priority documents have</li></ol>  | been received in Application                           | on No   |                 |  |  |  |
| <ol> <li>Copies of the certified copies of the priority doc<br/>International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> <li>* Certified copies not received:</li> </ol>  |  |   | ation from the  |  |  |  |
| 5. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority un  |  |   |                 |  |  |  |
| <ul><li>(a)  The translation of the foreign language provisional a</li><li>6. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority un</li></ul>   | •  |   |                 |  |  |  |
| Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of the second o | this communication to file a his application. THIS THE | a reply complying with the req<br>REE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT   | uirements noted |  |  |  |
| 7. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subminFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reas   |  |   | NOTICE OF       |  |  |  |
| <ul> <li>8.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.</li> <li>(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers</li> <li>1) hereto or 2) to Paper No</li> <li>(b) including changes required by the proposed drawing of including changes required by the attached Examiner</li> </ul>  | orrection filed, which                                 | ch has been approved by the   |                 |  |  |  |
| Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the top margin (not the back) of each sheet. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.   |  |   |                 |  |  |  |
| 9. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR TI  |  |   | Note the        |  |  |  |
| Attachment(s)  |  |   |                 |  |  |  |
| <ul> <li>1 Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>3 Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>5 Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No</li> <li>7 Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material</li> </ul>   | 4∐ Interviev<br>6∐ Examine                             | of Informal Patent Application  W Summary (PTO-413), Pape<br>er's Amendment/Comment  er's Statement of Reasons for  . | r No            |  |  |  |
|  |  | ANDREW FAILE  |                 |  |  |  |

Art Unit: 2611

#### **DETAILED ACTION**

## Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 16-25 are allowed.

## Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 16 and 21, the prior art fails to shows "a set-top electronics and network interface unit arrangement for use with an internal network configured to provide a network connection between the set-top electronics and the network interface unit, the set-top electronics and network interface unit arrangement, comprising:

A network interface unit having at least one network interface module adapted for connection to an external network, a transport device, couple to the network interface module, for selecting a single program from a plurality of programs in a first signal received from the external network via the network interface module, and an internal network interface, coupled to the transport device, for interfacing to the internal network, wherein the network interface unit provides a second signal that includes the single program to the internal network; and

A set-top electronics unit having an internal network interface device adapted for connection to the internal network for interfacing to the internal network to receive the second signal from the network interface unit via the internal network, and a signal converter coupled to the network interface device for converting the second signal as received by the internal network interface device to a third signal that is suitable for use by an end terminal, wherein the third signal includes information corresponding the single program, and

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Art Unit: 2611

Wherein the set-top electronics unit is further configured to re-route the second signal received from the network interface unit via the internal network by examining an address within the second signal and rerouting the second signal if the address is different from an address assigned to the set-top electronics unit."

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### Conclusion

3. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-6306 or (703) 308-6296, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

(703) 308-5399, (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 99. 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. V.A., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krista Kieu-Oanh Bui whose telephone number is (703) 305-0095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (1st week of a bi-week) and Monday-Friday (2nd week of a bi-week) from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Faile, can be reached on (703) 305-4380. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-5399.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Krista Bui Art Unit 2611 July 24, 2002

ANDREW FAILE SUPCOMISORY PATENT EXAMINER FLORINGLOGY CENTER 2600